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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: MARK C. NOE, ET AL.

CONFIRMATION NO. 62551

OFFICIAL

EXAMINER: THOMAS C. MCKENZIE

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FOR: SELECTIVE INHIBITION OF AGGREGANASE IN
OSTEOARTHRITIS TREATMENT

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER-FINAL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 22, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks and amendments. A petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action for one month, from April 22, 2004, to May 22, 2004, is being submitted concurrently herewith. In the event that one is not, applicants hereby make such petition and authorize the office to charge deposit account 23-0455 the required amount, or any amount required for an additional extension of time.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.